

STAYED,TYPE I-FOIA

**U.S. District Court  
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)  
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:17-cv-02685-RC**

AVILA et al v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Assigned to: Judge Rudolph Contreras  
Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 12/15/2017  
Jury Demand: None  
Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of Information Act  
Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

**Plaintiff****VICTOR AVILA**

represented by **Paul J. Orfanedes**  
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**Plaintiff****JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.**

represented by **Paul J. Orfanedes**  
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**Lauren M. Burke**  
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V.

**Defendant****U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

represented by **Melanie Dyani Hendry**  
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**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**

| Date Filed | #        | Docket Text   |
|------------|----------|---|
| 12/15/2017 | <u>1</u> | COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ( Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-5250137) filed by VICTOR AVILA, JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons for U.S. Attny for D.C., # <u>3</u> |

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|            |           | Summons for U.S. Attny General, # <u>4</u> Summons for U.S. Dept. of State)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 12/15/2017)   |
| 12/15/2017 | <u>2</u>  | LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 12/15/2017)   |
| 12/15/2017 | <u>3</u>  | MOTION Relief from Local Civil Rule 11.1 re <u>1</u> Complaint, by VICTOR AVILA, JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 12/15/2017)  |
| 12/15/2017 |           | Case Assigned to Judge Rudolph Contreras. (jd) (Entered: 12/19/2017)   |
| 12/19/2017 | <u>4</u>  | SUMMONS (2) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Notice and Consent)(jd) (Entered: 12/19/2017)  |
| 12/28/2017 |           | MINUTE ORDER granting <u>3</u> Plaintiff's Motion for Relief from Local Civil Rule 11.1: It is hereby ORDERED that Plaintiff shall be permitted to redact his residence address in the caption of his complaint filed on the public docket. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 12/28/2017. (lcrc3) (Entered: 12/28/2017)   |
| 01/08/2018 | <u>5</u>  | RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 12/26/2017. ( Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 1/25/2018.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 12/26/17., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE served on 12/26/2017 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Exhibit 1 (U.S. Attny. for D.C.), # <u>2</u> Exhibit 2 (U.S. Attny. Gen.), # <u>3</u> Exhibit 3 (U.S. Dept. of State))(Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 01/08/2018) |
| 01/22/2018 | <u>6</u>  | NOTICE of Appearance by Melanie Dyani Hendry on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 01/22/2018)   |
| 01/22/2018 | <u>7</u>  | Consent MOTION to Stay <i>Deadline to Respond to Complaint</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 01/22/2018)   |
| 01/23/2018 | <u>8</u>  | NOTICE by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE re <u>7</u> Consent MOTION to Stay <i>Deadline to Respond to Complaint</i> (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 01/23/2018)  |
| 01/23/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER denying as moot <u>7</u> Motion to Stay. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 1/23/2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 01/23/2018)  |
| 01/24/2018 | <u>9</u>  | ANSWER to <u>1</u> Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.(Hendry, Melanie) Modified to add link on 1/25/2018 (znmw). (Entered: 01/24/2018)   |
| 01/25/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall meet, confer, and submit a proposed briefing schedule on or before February 8, 2018. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 1/25/2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 01/25/2018)   |
| 02/08/2018 | <u>10</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 02/08/2018)   |
| 02/12/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>10</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint status report on or before March 8, 2018, updating the Court about the status of Defendant's search and to propose a schedule for the processing and release of responsive non-exempt documents to Plaintiffs. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 2/12/2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 02/12/2018)  |
| 02/12/2018 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 3/8/2018. (tj) (Entered: 02/12/2018)   |
| 03/08/2018 | <u>11</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 03/08/2018)   |
| 03/08/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>11</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties file a joint status report on or before June 15, 2018, reporting the status of the processing and release of responsive non-exempt documents to Plaintiffs. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on 3/8/2018. (lcrc3)   |

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|            |           | (Entered: 03/08/2018)   |
| 03/09/2018 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 6/15/2018 (tj) (Entered: 03/09/2018)  |
| 06/14/2018 | <u>12</u> | ENTERED IN ERROR.....Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) Modified on 6/18/2018 (zjf). (Entered: 06/14/2018)  |
| 06/15/2018 | <u>13</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by VICTOR AVILA, JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Burke, Lauren) (Entered: 06/15/2018)  |
| 06/15/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>13</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint status report on or before July 16, 2018. The Court will schedule a status hearing, if necessary, upon review of that joint status report. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on June 15, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 06/15/2018) |
| 06/18/2018 |           | NOTICE OF CORRECTED DOCKET ENTRY: Document No re <u>12</u> Status Report was entered in error and refiled by counsel in the correct case.(jf) (Entered: 06/18/2018)   |
| 06/18/2018 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 7/16/2018 (tj) (Entered: 06/18/2018)  |
| 07/16/2018 | <u>14</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 07/16/2018)  |
| 07/17/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall appear for a status hearing on August 2, 2018 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 14 before Judge Rudolph Contreras. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on July 17, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 07/17/2018)   |
| 07/17/2018 |           | Set/Reset Hearings: Status Conference set for 8/2/2018 at 10:00 AM in Courtroom 14 before Judge Rudolph Contreras. (tj) (Entered: 07/17/2018)   |
| 08/01/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: It is hereby ORDERED that on August 2, 2018, the parties shall arrive at the courthouse at 9:30 AM and have a face-to-face discussion concerning all outstanding issues. The Court will then conduct the 10:00 AM status hearing. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on August 1, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 08/01/2018)                                    |
| 08/02/2018 |           | Minute Entry for proceedings held before Judge Rudolph Contreras: Status Conference held on 8/2/2018. Order forthcoming. (Court Reporter: Jeff Hook.) (hmc) (Entered: 08/02/2018)   |
| 08/02/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: As discussed on the record at today's status hearing, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint status report on or before August 30, 2018. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on August 2, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 08/02/2018)   |
| 08/03/2018 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/30/2018 (hs) (Entered: 08/03/2018)  |
| 08/30/2018 | <u>15</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 08/30/2018)  |
| 08/31/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>15</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before September 28, 2018. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on August 31, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 08/31/2018)   |
| 08/31/2018 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 9/28/2018 (tj) (Entered: 08/31/2018)  |
| 09/28/2018 | <u>16</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 09/28/2018)  |
| 09/28/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>16</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before October 31, 2018. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on September 28, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 09/28/2018)  |
| 10/31/2018 | <u>17</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 10/31/2018)  |

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| 10/31/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>17</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before November 30, 2018. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on October 31, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 10/31/2018)  |
| 11/30/2018 | <u>18</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE. (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 11/30/2018)   |
| 11/30/2018 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>18</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before January 7, 2019. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on November 30, 2018. (lcrc3) (Entered: 11/30/2018)   |
| 01/04/2019 | <u>19</u> | Unopposed MOTION to Stay <i>in Light of Lapse in Appropriations</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE (Hendry, Melanie) (Entered: 01/04/2019)  |
| 01/23/2019 |           | MINUTE ORDER granting <u>19</u> Defendant's Unopposed Motion to Stay. It is hereby ORDERED that this action is stayed until appropriations are restored to the Department of Justice. It is FURTHER ORDERED that the joint status report previously due on January 7, 2019 shall now be due within 7 days of Congress restoring appropriations. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on January 23, 2019. (lcrc3) (Entered: 01/23/2019) |
| 02/01/2019 | <u>20</u> | NOTICE of Appearance by Paul J. Orfanedes on behalf of VICTOR AVILA, JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 02/01/2019)  |
| 02/01/2019 | <u>21</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by VICTOR AVILA, JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 02/01/2019)   |
| 02/01/2019 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>21</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before March 8, 2019. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on February 1, 2019. (lcrc3) (Entered: 02/01/2019)  |
| 02/06/2019 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 3/8/2019 (tj) (Entered: 02/06/2019)  |
| 03/08/2019 | <u>22</u> | Joint STATUS REPORT by VICTOR AVILA, JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 03/08/2019)   |
| 03/08/2019 |           | MINUTE ORDER: Upon consideration of <u>22</u> the parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall file another joint status report on or before April 8, 2019. SO ORDERED. Signed by Judge Rudolph Contreras on March 8, 2019. (lcrc3) (Entered: 03/08/2019)   |
| 03/11/2019 |           | Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 4/8/2019 (tj) (Entered: 03/11/2019)  |